

KENNEBEC COUNTY CO KENNEBEC COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING

AGENDA

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DATE: May 5, 2020

WORKSHOP: 11:00 am

CALL TO ORDER: NOON via ZOOM (if you wish to join by Zoom, please call 622-0971)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: April 21, 2020

REPORTS:

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

HUMAN RESOURCES

TREASURER

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

DEEDS

DISTRICT ATTORNEY

E.M.A.

FACILITIES

PROBATE

SHERIFF'S OFFICE/CORRECTIONS

PROJECT UPDATES:

OLD BUSINESS

- 1) Signature for approval of County Warrants
- 2) New hire and termination change of status forms for approval.

NEW BUSINESS

PUBLIC COMMENTS

EXECUTIVE SESSION

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioners Minutes

April 21, 2020

Present: Chairman Patsy Crockett, Nancy Rines, Commissioner, George Jabar, Commissioner, Robert Devlin County Administrator, Terry York, Assistant County Administrator, Richard Davies, Treasurer, Maeghan Maloney, District Attorney, Beverly Bustin-Hatheway, Register of Deeds , Sheriff Ken Mason, Chief Morin, Lt. Read, Lt. Bryan Slaney, Devon Parsons, IT, Kathy Ayers, Register of Probate

Absent: Dave Hawke, IT, Sean Goodwin, EMA Director, James Saucier, Facilities Maintenance, Richard Wurpel, Jail Captain, Tracie Lesperance, Finance Clerk, Cynthia Ferguson, Finance Director

	Discussion	Action
Call to order	12:00 pm	
Minutes	Motion and second to accept the minutes of March 17, 2020	3 in favor 0 opposed
County Administrator	<p>Robert Devlin County Administrator: We received a letter from the Correctional Employees Union. It was sent to all the counties they represent. Basically, because the State got a raise, they want one as well. I did reply and said that there is a section of the contract that states it is based on appropriations, etc. Peter Marcasi, on behalf of Knox County, sent a lengthy letter in response to the Union. We are scheduled to start bargaining with the Corrections Union, but considering the circumstances, I am not sure how this will all work out.</p> <p>We're having a caucus in Rome tomorrow; Thursday we're going to set up a Zoom meeting with the Budget Committee.</p>	<p>Update</p> <p>Update</p>
Human Resources	<p>Terry York, Assistant County Administrator: It's been very quiet, aside from a few Workers' Comp claims. I had to file first report of injuries because we had a particular inmate who apparently likes to be violent, but no serious injuries fortunately.</p> <p>I did two new hire orientations at the jail; we do have a lot of applications coming in, which I think we can attribute some of it to people who are out of work due to this virus. Hopefully, if they are hired, they will stay after this is over.</p>	<p>Update</p> <p>Update</p>
Treasurer	Richard Davies, Treasurer: The cash position is \$5.5 million	Update

	Discussion	Action
	<p>and a little over \$2 million in the investment pool. We are about 80 percent of the way through the fiscal year.</p> <p>Cynthia Ferguson, Finance Director: The auditors are in the process of finishing up the audit for Unity Township. I have reviewed their findings and have sent them some corrections that they should make and they will be issuing it soon. We're in the process of finalizing the information they needed to finish up their audit for the county as a whole as well.</p>	Update
Deeds	Beverly Bustin-Hatheway, Register of Deeds: We are \$48,738 ahead of last year	Update
District Attorney	<p>Maeghan Maloney, District Attorney: We have been doing fairly well because of having gone electronically with our documents before all of this started. So we were already receiving all of our police reports via the internet, and this enabled most of our people to work from home. My biggest issue is that most of them don't want to work from home, they want to come in. I will see people who aren't scheduled to work, in the office and ask them why they are there. I am really working hard to keep them home. I am really proud of this group of people because no one is complaining.</p> <p>So the big problem we are having right now is all that we're doing in court, the in custodies and the arraignment for domestic violence cases. So we're not having any hearings and people are not allowed to plead guilty unless it will result in their immediate release. There are a lot of complaints regarding this, because once you plead guilty, you're able to qualify for things like trustee status which gives you far more goodtime, and you're not able to get trustee status until you plead. So there are a lot of people who want to plead, but they're simply not allowed to. This is something that will erupt at some point; I am happy to allow them to plead. The court is saying they are not allowed to plead unless it will result in their immediate release; I am not understanding that piece of it, because they are already at the jail, so let them plead and remain there. The other thing that is happening is that people cannot plead if it will result in their</p>	<p>Update</p> <p>Update</p> <p>Update</p>

	Discussion	Action
	<p>transfer to the prison; that is not the court's decision, the is the DOC's decision; they will not take any new people. They have managed to keep Covid out of the prison population, so they are not willing to take any risks. In addition to all of this, people can't have their trials, they are subject to certain conditions and that is extending the length of time of those conditions. I think we're all waiting to see what the next step is for when Governor Mills releases her plan in reopening the State, where do the courts fall within that plan.</p> <p>Our budget is essentially what it always was, with the exception of two things: one, we are adding a half time position, so that's and increase. And then a decrease in line 4675, computer repair and maintenance, and that is a decrease that we are working on decreasing every year, as we move toward our new computer program; leaving Justware and moving to Odyssey. We are hoping to see that switch by December.</p> <p>Chairman Patsy Crockett: Can you tell us how domestic violence is impacting Kennebec County? Maeghan Maloney, District Attorney: It's something that we are extremely worried about. As you know, Paul Stewart has retired and Christian Behr has taken his place, and he is very adept with social media. He's been working cases and has made three arrests; and on his own and has decided to call every single victim of every active domestic violence and sexual assault case that we have. He wanted to go visit them but because of the social distancing, he decided to call them. His involvement is wonderful. In addition to that, we are worried because of the social distancing that people are not getting help. The three arrests that were made are contact violations and are individuals who are already in jail. He's also going through all of our domestic violence and sexual assault police reports and making notes on all the problems he sees on the reports that we get from law enforcement, and categorizing them by the different law enforcement agencies, and putting together a training, so that when this virus is over, he wants to go and talk to each of the agencies about why their</p>	<p>Update</p> <p>Update</p> <p>Update</p>

	Discussion	Action
	reports aren't adequate.	
EMA	Sean Goodwin, EMA Director: Absent	
Facilities	James Saucier, Facilities Maintenance: Absent	
Information Technology	Devin Parsons, IT: Everything is still running good; no issues.	Update
	All projects are on hold because of the virus; just keeping up with general maintenance.	Update
Probate	Kathy Ayers, Register of Probate: We have two people that are working from home. We are receiving a normal amount of telephone calls about people dying and the estates. We are having issues with guardianships and our visitors because we cannot get in to the facilities.	Update
	I did talk to the judge today about having a plan in place once this is all over. We haven't been able to do termination of parental rights either because we can't serve them to come to the courthouse or we can't have them in the courthouse.	Update
Sheriff/Corrections:	Sheriff Mason, Corrections: We have 89 inmates at the jail. Our inmate population is way down due to the virus. We had to physically remove an inmate about two weeks ago from the jail; we offered him a ride home and he didn't want one, he wanted to stay in jail. We left him, and about twenty minutes later, he was using the hood of my cruiser as a trampoline, thus resulting in \$1700 in damage, which is now at Moody's Collision, getting fixed.	Update
	Our PPE stock is doing very well. We have a phone briefing with DOC every day; they mostly talk about what they are doing in DOC, an often we adopt some of their practices. They have donated washable gowns that the inmates made at the prison. Everyone is working together. No one goes into the jail without getting their temperature taken.	Update

	Discussion	Action
	port, do what we needed to do and call the bail commissioner. Most of the time, the charges are criminal trespass, and we don't need to bring them into the jail; we can fingerprint and photograph them right out there and then the bail commissioner comes in. It was a peaceful demonstration, and we didn't have to bring anyone in.	
Project Updates	None at this time	
Old Business/ Follow Up Items		
Warrants	April 21, 2020	Signed
Change of Status	New hire, termination, step increases	Signed
New Business	20-11) Motion and second to accept the rebate check from Workers' Comp and deposit it in the ergonomic safety account 20-12) Motion and second to renew the Securus contract at the jail.	3 in favor 0 opposed 3 in favor 0 opposed
Executive Session	Motion by Chairman Crockett seconded by Commissioner Rines to go into Executive Session in accordance with 1 MRSA 405-6-A to discuss a personnel issue. Into Executive Session at: 1:25 pm. Out of Executive Session at 1:37 pm	No Action Taken
Miscellaneous	None at this time	
Adjournment	Adjourned at 1:38 pm	3 in favor 0 opposed

Terry York, Assistant Administrator